

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

HEREWITH TEXT OF BALTIMORE SUN EDITORIAL FROM EDITIONS
OF TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 ENTITLED "AID TO TURKEY".

THE REAL TOLL OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN EASTERN TURKEY MAY
NOT BE CLEAR UNTIL SPRING. IT IS A REMOTE, MOUNTAINOUS,
ILL-DEVELOPED REGION, ALREADY HIT BY BLIZZARD. THE
IMMEDIATE NEED IS FOR HEATED TENTS, BUT MANY OF THE 30,000
VILLAGERS MADE HOMELESS WILL NEED SOLID WALLS AND ROOFS
TO SURVIVE THE WINTER.

THE US WAS RIGHTLY GENEROUS AND QUICK IN ITS AID, WHICH HAS
BEEN ACCEPTED BY TURKEY. LAST AUTUMN, AFTER A LESSER
EARTHQUAKE, TURKEY REJECTED US AID. PREMIER SULEYMAN
DEMIREL WAS TOO ANNOYED AT CONGRESS FOR SUSPENDING ARMS
SHIPMENTS, AND TOO ANXIOUS TO DEMONSTRATE TURKISH SELF-
SUFFICIENCY.

THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT HAS NOW SURVIVED UNEXPECTEDLY SINCE
MARCH, 1974, AND RELATIONS WITH THIS COUNTRY ARE TENTATIVELY
THAWING. A MILITARY AGREEMENT LINKING CONTINUED AMERICAN
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USE OF BASES WITH \$1 BILLION IN AID OVER FOUR YEARS

WAS COMPLETED IN MARCH, BUT NOT ACTED UPON BY CONGRESS.
IT IS ONE OF THE TESTS FACING PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER
AND THE 95TH CONGRESS.

THE CONGRESSMEN WHO ENGINEERED THE AID CUT-OFF EXPECTED
IT TO MODIFY TURKEY'S POLICY ON OCCUPIED CYPRUS. NO
SUCH THING HAS HAPPENED. THE PARTITION OF THE ISLAND
ALONG LINES GROSSLY UNFAIR TO THE GREEK-CYPRIOT MAJORITY
IS HARDENING INTO ACCOMPLISHED FACT, WHILE THE INTERCOM-
MUNAL TALKS DRAG ON AND OFF WITHOUT PROGRESS. ON OTHER
MATTERS, AFFECTING THE AEGEAN SEABED DISPUTE AND COMMUNI-
CATIONS, GREECE AND TURKEY ARE SLOWLY RELAXING THEIR
TENSIONS AND LOOKING FOR WAYS TO AGREE.

NEITHER CYPRUS, NOR TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS NOR THE
VIABILITY OF NATO'S SOUTHERN FLANK HAS RECOVERED FROM THE
DISASTER OF THE 1974 CYPRIOT COUP AND TURKISH INVASION.
GREECE AT LEAST HAS GAINED AN APPARENTLY STABLE DEMOCRACY
IN PLACE OF THE COLONELS. IT IS TIME FOR TURKEY TO MAKE
DECENT GESTURES ON CYPRUS, WHERE ITS 1974 VICTORY IS
UNCONTESTED. THE QUICK HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE OF THE US
TO HUMAN MISERY CAUSED BY EARTHQUAKE, AND THE TURKISH
WELCOME FOR THAT RESPONSE, ARE SIGNS OF AN IMPROVING
CLIMATE FOR ADDRESSING THE HARDER QUESTIONS OF TURKISH-
AMERICAN RELATIONS.
ROBINSON

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